



## The IDP influx in Iraq has put increased pressure on camps hosting both refugees and IDPs in the northern part of the country

### AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS:

In Iraq, Arbat permanent camp is complete with improved shelter facilities for 10,000 persons. All the population of Arbat transit camp (3,455 persons) is now relocated to the permanent camp. An extra space is available for 6,545 persons. The transit camp is now used to host the influx of internally displaced people (IDPs). In Domiz, relocation to Domiz 2 camp continues to ease overcrowding in Domiz 1. Some 500 families were relocated to Domiz camp during August. Two camps (Bahrka contingency camp in Erbil and Bajid Kandala transit camp) were used to host the IDPs. In parallel to its responsibility as a lead agency for shelter sector for the Syrian refugees, UNHCR has become the lead for Shelter Cluster for the IDPs.

In Lebanon, weatherproofing has been boosted ahead of the upcoming winter, with 1,975 refugees benefiting from the distribution of 435 shelter sealing-off kits. 643 refugees received 132 new arrival kits across the country. 645 refugees also benefitted from site improvements works in four flood-prone informal settlements of the Bekaa. Rehabilitation of houses and collective centers continues to be central to the shelter response. 645 refugees were provided with shelter through rehabilitation of 17 small shelter units and four collective centers by agencies across the country. Beneficiaries included refugee families fleeing the fighting in Arsal. By the end of August, agencies reported shelter assistance reaching 303,753 individuals this year.

In Jordan a task force of the Shelter WG is in the final stages of writing guidelines for cash for rent - the cash component under the shelter sector. These guidelines will help to harmonize the methodology and level of assistance to Syrian refugees in urban/rural settings among members of the Shelter sector.



Iraq KRI, Ned Colt/UNHCR

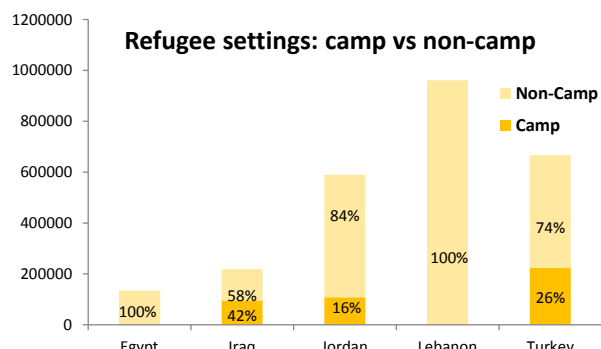
### SYRIAN REFUGEES IN THE REGION:

2,986,008

Refugee Population, end-August 2014

3,590,000

Refugee Population Planning Figure, end-2014



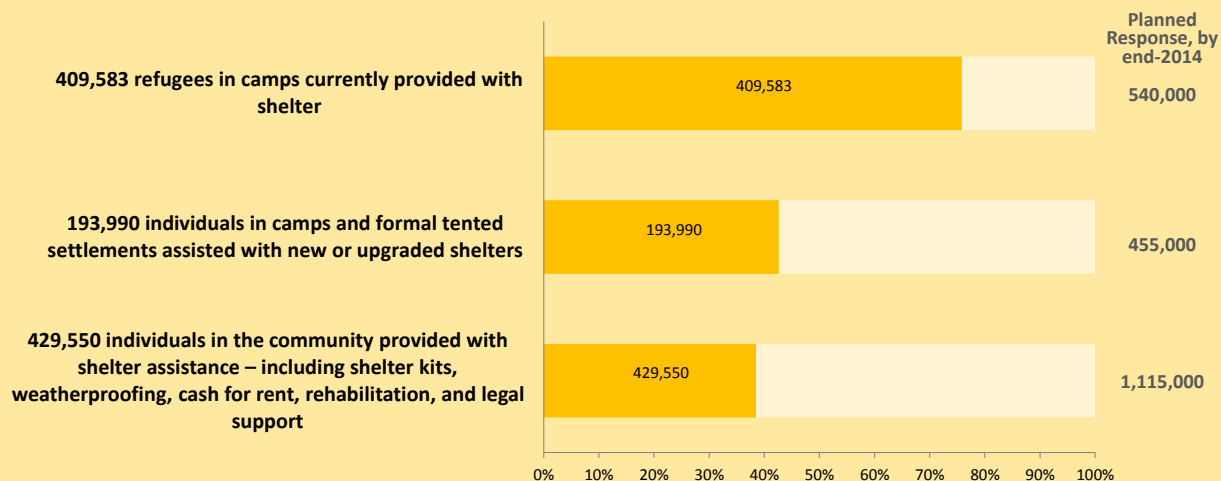
### NEEDS ANALYSIS:

Out of 3.59 million UNHCR registered Syrians expected by December 2014, around 540,000 will be accommodated in camps. Shelter solutions in camps vary and include tents, caravans and transitional T-shelters, generally meeting minimum international standards. Continued efforts are required (and underway) to improve infrastructure (roads, drainage), provide safety, ensure weather-proofing and maintenance, inclusion of water and sanitation facilities. Camps are relatively expensive on a per-capita basis and at present, have little prospect for self-sustainability. Shelter remains a significant concern in the contingency plan, given the scarcity of land to accommodate large numbers of people. Throughout the region, there are pre-identified sites to accommodate up to 200,000 additional people.

Access to affordable and adequate shelter remains a major issue for those refugees living outside of camps. 95 per cent of refugees who live outside camps pay rent, and thus are impacted by increasing rental prices and shortages of affordable housing units in the market. In Jordan, for example, rental prices have reportedly increased by 100-200 per cent in some areas, with extremes of 300 per cent, compared to pre-crisis values. Moreover, across the region, approximately 860,000 refugees are estimated to live in sub-standard shelters, including some 170,000 people living in informal settlements in Lebanon. Many refugees are paying rent to live in places that are uninhabitable.

Winter cold and seasonal precipitation pose yet another challenge to the most shelter insecure - it is estimated that nearly 100,000 dwellings will be in need of weather-proofing or assistance with heating during the winter months.

### REGIONAL RESPONSE INDICATORS:



Planned response based on full funding of RRP6 for an expected population of 3.59 million Syrian refugees in the region by end-2014. As at end-August 2014, there were 2.98 million refugees in the region and the overall RRP6 appeal was 44% funded.